

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION  
NATURAL RESOURCES SECTION  
EXPERIENCED TRIAL ATTORNEY GS-12 TO GS-15  
VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**

The [Environment and Natural Resources Division \(ENRD\)](#) of the U.S. Department of Justice is seeking applications from talented and experienced trial lawyers capable of assuming a challenging caseload for the Natural Resources Section in Washington, DC.

**The Natural Resources Section** litigates cases arising from more than 80 different environmental and natural resource statutes, and numerous treaties, international agreements, interstate compacts and Congressional referrals. The diverse and dynamic subject matter of the Section's docket includes cases involving the National Forest Management Act, the National Park Service Organic Act, the Coastal Zone Management Act, the National Historic Preservation Act, the Archaeological Resources Protection Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, the National Marine Sanctuaries Act, the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, and the National Trails System Act. The Section's cases, many of them of first impression and significant media interest, involve the stewardship of our national parks, forests, rangelands, wildlife refuges, and offshore resources; the Nation's trust relationship with Native Americans and Tribes; and vital federal programs ranging from nuclear materials management to military preparedness to energy policy and resource extraction. The Section handles cutting-edge litigation over Fifth Amendment takings claims and original actions in the U.S. Supreme Court to resolve boundary and water allocation disputes. The Section's cases are tried throughout the United States and its possessions and territories in both state and federal court. The Section represents virtually every major federal agency. For more information about the Environment & Natural Resources Division, visit the Justice Department's web site at: <http://www.usdoj.gov/enrd>.

**Position:** The attorney selected for this position will work initially on litigation involving the defense of the United States against claims that it has breached its trust responsibilities to Native American Tribes. These cases involve complicated factual and legal issues relating to the interpretation of treaties and statutes, and the management of Tribal natural resources and funds.

**Qualifications:** The Section's docket is demanding and requires top caliber work product. The successful applicant will have a demonstrated record of complex case management, initiative and creativity, superb courtroom skills, outstanding legal writing, and a commitment to the highest ethical and professional standards.

Applicants must possess a J.D. degree, be an active member of the bar (any jurisdiction), have at least three years of post-J.D. experience, and be a U.S. citizen. Applicants should have a strong interest in federal litigation and/or trial work and an exceptional academic background. Judicial clerkship experience and familiarity with defensive civil litigation is highly desirable, and knowledge of trusts, Indian law or natural resource management is a plus. Applicants must demonstrate superior research, analytical, and writing abilities. Periodic travel is required.

Current salary and years of experience will determine the appropriate salary level. The possible salary range is GS-12 (\$65,048 - \$84,599) to GS-15 (\$107,521 - \$139,774).

**Terms of Appointment:** Initial appointment to this position is for a period not to exceed two years. A selected attorney who performs successfully will be eligible for conversion to a permanent appointment. The selected attorney is eligible for employment benefits such as health and life insurance, the FERS retirement program, paid vacation and sick leave, and a public transportation subsidy.

**Application Procedures:** Applicants must submit a resume or current OF-612 (Optional Application for Federal Employment), a cover letter (highlighting relevant experience) and a writing sample to:

U.S. Department of Justice  
Environment & Natural Resources Division  
Natural Resources Section  
P.O. Box 663  
Washington, D.C. 20044-0663  
(ENRD-06-019-EXC)  
Attn: Tom Clark  
Principal Deputy Chief

No telephone calls please.

**Application Deadline:** The positions are open until filled, but applications should be submitted by January 31, 2006.

*The U.S. Department of Justice is an Equal Opportunity/Reasonable Accommodation Employer. It is the policy of the Department to achieve a drug-free workplace, and persons selected will be required to pass a drug test to screen for illegal drug use. Employment is also contingent upon the satisfactory completion of a background investigation adjudicated by the Department of Justice.*

*The Department of Justice welcomes and encourages applications from persons with physical and mental disabilities and will reasonably accommodate the needs of those persons. The Department is firmly committed to satisfying its affirmative obligations under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, to ensure that persons with disabilities have every opportunity to be hired and advanced.*

This and selected other legal position announcements can be found on the Internet at:  
<http://www.usdoj.gov/careers/oapm>.